

Coalition News Briefs

Aug 15, 2006

Patrols detain suspects, seize munitions

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Soldiers from 2nd Tank Brigade, 9th Iraqi Army Division, supported by Soldiers from 7th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, detained seven suspected terrorists during a combined operation that began Aug. 12 north of Baghdad. Soldiers from 2nd Bde., 9th IAD, and Troop A, 7th Sqdn., conducted a cordon and search and detained 38 suspects; 31 were released and seven were moved to Camp Taji for questioning. Meanwhile, a dismounted patrol from 7th Sqdn., 10th Cav. Regt., seized munitions from two sites north of Baghdad at approximately 7:15 p.m. Aug. 12. A patrol from Troop B found a rocket-propelled grenade launcher with two rounds, an AK-47 assault rifle with 10 magazines, a missile guidance system and 20 to 30 pounds of flake TNT explosives. The same patrol found a mortar round at a second site. An Estonian Infantry Platoon attached to 7th Sqdn. reinforced the patrol and assisted with the searches.

Aug. 17, 2006

IA soldiers rescue 3 kidnapped policemen after terrorist attack

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from 4th Brigade, 6th Iraqi Army Division, rescued three kidnapped Iraqi policemen Aug. 16 during a small-arms engagement with terrorists in a rural area outside of Babil province.

The freed Iraqi policemen reported being kidnapped from another checkpoint only minutes away from where the gunfight took place. The IA soldiers discovered the kidnap victims after they were attacked by small-arms fire from four vehicles passing by their checkpoint. They returned fire, capturing two of the vehicles.

Soldiers examined the vehicles and found three police officers in the trunks, along with an AK-47 assault rifle and a rocket-propelled grenade launcher.

The kidnap victims indicated two more officers were being held in the vehicles that fled.

Aug. 18, 2006

MND-B Soldiers seize weapons, munitions

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from 172nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, Multi-National Division – Baghdad, detained two suspected terrorists and seized a large weapons cache in a warehouse during a search of Nur and Ghazalyia Aug. 18 in support of Operation Together Forward.

The weapons and munitions seized included 272 120mm mortar rounds, 212 82mm mortar rounds, 99 60mm mortar rounds, 33,800 14.5mm rounds, 5,000 7.62 rounds, 90 5.56 rounds, 165 19mm rounds and 104 rocket-propelled grenades.

Aug. 18, 2006

Iraqi Police recruiting drive successful

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – More than 950 new Iraqi recruits will begin a 10-week Basic Police Officer training course August 21, 2006.

The new recruits are the result of one of Multi-National Forces - West most successful recruiting efforts this year. The monthly drive focuses on identifying, screening and signing up local Iraqi national men from communities in and around the Euphrates River Valley.

Many of the new recruits will receive their training at the Baghdad Police College.

Upon completion of training, the recruits will return to their communities where they will serve as some of the more than 7,000 Iraqi police officers trained under the new Iraqi government.

According to Multi-National Forces - West Police Advisor, Maj. Robert Chiaruttini, the success of recent recruiting drives is due in part to improvements that the Iraqi Ministry of Interior and Al Anbar officials have made to the system used to pay Iraqi police.

Aug. 20, 2006

Iraqi Forces Capture Key Insurgent Leaders In Baghdad

BAGHDAD – Iraqi army forces conducted simultaneous, precision raids on three objectives in southern Baghdad on August 20, capturing two key insurgent leaders as part of the Together Forward security operation in Baghdad.

As coalition advisers supported, Iraqi forces captured these two insurgents without incident at a residence in the Al Ra-sheed district.

Both men exercise control over all death squad cell activity in the Al Dora, Al Sahha and Abu D'Shair districts in Baghdad. One of these individuals also allegedly controls a Baghdad husayniyah where he tortures and kills Iraqi citizens.

Four other suspicious individuals also were detained during this operation.

No Iraqi forces, coalition forces or civilians were injured.

Aug. 20, 2006

Iraqi army soldiers rescue kidnapped women, arrest kidnappers

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from 5th Battalion, 6th Iraqi Army Division rescued a kidnapped woman from a house in Karkh at approximately 4 p.m., Aug 19.

A woman who claimed she had been kidnapped entered their office and led the soldiers to a house nearby, where she said another kidnapped woman was inside.

The soldiers raided the house and found the other woman and two kidnappers.

Soldiers arrested the kidnappers and the women were released unharmed.

